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Correspondence from particular farmers, giving the results of their experience, is welcomed. Letters should be signed with the writer's real name, in full, which will be printed or not, as the writer may wish.
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AGRICULTURAL.

Fruit Growers' Field Meeting.

The cordial invitation of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association to its "members and any friends interested in fruit growing," to meet at Belmont on Thursday, June 17, at 10.30 A.M. for the purpose of viewing the farms of Messrs. Varnum Frost, W. W. Rawson and the Hittinger Brothers, brought out an enthusiastic response of about 150 visitors from all parts of the state. As only 68 of these had previously notified the committee of arrangements of their intention to accept the invitation, the committee were severely taxed to provide barges for the transportation of the 150 visitors over the three miles of road between these farms, and to find dining accommodations for so many unexpected guests; some delay resulted, which was good naturedly borne by both hosts and guests. The day was one of those "rare" June days which have this year been unusually rare, and the company were very intelligent observers who evidently enjoyed and appreciated the opportunity thus offered for an object lesson in the highest kind of gardening practised in this part of the country.

The first farm visited was that of Mr. Varnum Frost. As he grows little fruit beside strawberries, the attention of the visitors was at once drawn to the acre or more of strawberries now in bearing, and to the newly planted beds for next year's crop. The readers of the PLOUGHMAN have often been informed before of the methods pursued by Mr. Frost, which are briefly these. A new piece is planted each year, the rows six feet apart, with two feet between the plants; between the rows are grown some early crops, such as American-wonder peas, or lettuce or early beets, which are cleared off before the plants begin to run. The runners spread rapidly in July and August in the rich, moist and highly cultivated land, which has received for many years a yearly application of ten or fifteen cords of rich stable manure and nothing else; when the land has been sufficiently covered with the runners, which usually occurs in August or early in September, the old plants are cut out, in order to prevent the production of too many runners, which are often as troublesome and injurious as weeds. A mulch of salt hay or fire-fanged manure is spread over the bed in winter.

Little care is needed in spring beyond removing what few weeds appear and renewing the mulch where needed. Picking had not begun at Mr. Frost's but would begin the next morning. As has often been stated before, Mr. Frost does not entrust his picking to transient laborers, hired temporarily by the quart, but wakes up his regular help at 3.30 A.M., and picks till about 7 A.M. The berries are delivered before 10 A.M. in Boston, and are eaten on the tables of wealthy buyers who are eager to get them at fancy prices.

Mr. Frost is modest about saying what his prices are, but from inquiry at the market we learn that forty cents per quart is freely paid for such fruit when ordinary berries sell at from fifteen cents down to eight cents or even less. The demand for such berries at such prices, however, is not very large;

and whether his methods would prove profitable upon the cheaper and poorer lands at a greater distance from a rich market, are questions which will be answered best by those experienced in such matters.

The varieties grown by Mr. Frost are the Belmont, the Marshall and Bubach. The Bubach is planted in alternate rows with the Marshall and Belmont, as it needs fertilization from a staminate variety. The Belmont, both here and at the Hittinger place, is subject to blight, and is less popular than two years ago. Mr. Frost thinks the Brandywine a promising variety and is trying also the Gandy with some hope of success.

After viewing his garden the company was welcomed by Mr. Frost, who said he was surprised and delighted to be honored by so large a company of representative fruit growers. Mr. George Cruickshanks, the President of the association, replied very gracefully that the association felt highly honored to be invited to see such an excellent example of the most intensive farming. Mr. Frost then invited the company to help themselves to the lemonade flavored with strawberries, but without any "knock down" in it, which was served on a table on the lawn, also some excellent English ale. The company, however, did not seem to see any evidence in the remarkably tidy fields, where an occasional rare weed looked awfully lonesome, or in the vigorous crops, or in the market wagon heavily loaded with vegetable boxes from market, which was quickly cleared of its load and made to serve, with a span of fresh horses, as a barge for the transportation of the unexpected guests, or in the energetic and hearty hospitality of Mr. Frost, they did not see in any of these things any apparent evidence that Mr. Frost is "drifting toward the poorhouse," as he is in the habit of jocosely hinting.

The company after leaving Mr. Frost's place were driven through Pleasant street to Arlington Village to view the twelve or fifteen large greenhouses of Mr. W. W. Rawson located on two estates distant a quarter of a mile apart. Mr. Rawson is not a fruit grower, but is probably the largest vegetable grower in Massachusetts, and his farms show the result of remarkable thrift and energy in their management. Mr. Rawson being absent, Mr. Fiske received the company.

The cucumbers in his houses were remarkably vigorous and prolific. Dinner was served in Menotomy Hall, after which the party were driven in barges through Main street, past the Allen and Russell farms, up Lake street, past the Crosby and Wyman farms, through Cross street to the extensive fruit farm of the Hittinger Bros. near Payson Park.

The Hittinger estate comprises nearly forty acres, nearly all of which is planted in fruit trees, bushes and vegetables. This estate is probably provided with the best facilities for irrigation of any farm in the state. On the top of the hill west of the farm is Payson Park; here is located the reservoir of the Cambridge water works, in the construction of which it became necessary to provide for the drainage of about 100,000 gallons or more per day of surface water, which would not answer for the city service, which latter is pumped from Fresh pond to the reservoir on this hill. The surface drainage of the hill was most easily effected through the Hittinger estate, the owners of which granted the right to drain the surplus water under the land, provided that they should have the right to use all they wish as it passes. They are thus supplied with water under a head of about thirty pounds per square inch to the amount of 100,000 gallons per day or more whenever they want it. The water is stored in a large brick tank on the hill and distributed by four-inch mains, which are carried under ground until they reach the fields, where the service pipes two inches in diameter are carried about eight feet high, branches three-eighths inches in diameter, twenty feet apart, feed rotary sprinklers every twenty feet, so that when the water is turned on a heavy shower falls over a large field of strawberries or cucumbers. There is no bother here with pumps, or hose or ditches. All you have to do is

to turn on the water when wanted, and shut it off when you have enough.

The apple and pear and plum orchards are planted with currants and gooseberries between the trees; and these bushes when small are planted with onions, beets, parsley, etc., between the rows. Thus much of the land is made to carry three crops.

A few years ago the Hittingers had a large orchard of Anjou pears; they cracked so badly that they have been re-grafted with Bosc.

The Fay currant is the only variety they are planting; they have about nine acres of them and expect with favorable weather to market this year about twenty-five tons. The currant worm is hatching its second brood now, and a barrel and a half of hellebore will be applied to quiet him.

Several varieties of gooseberries have been tried here, the most promising of which is the so-called "Franklin Park," a variety said to have originated some years ago in the neighborhood of this park. It is large and very prolific and free from mildew. After having propagated a good stock of this variety, Messrs. Hittinger will offer plants for sale; they have none at present ready.

The wheel hoe used on this farm is made by the Deering Co. of Moline, Ill., and is a favorite tool with those who have used it for picking out the weeds in onions, beet, and other small crops.

The Bubach, Marshall and Brandywine are the favorite varieties of strawberries on this estate. The Marshall is not so promising this year as last, however, having many barren plants.

All these farms devote a large area of glass, both in greenhouses and hotbeds, to the growth of cucumbers at this time of year. On the Rawson place there are about three acres of glass, and there is a very large amount on all the good farms of Arlington and Belmont; there is good reason for the low price of cucumbers.

A heavy dressing of lime every third year is found beneficial on these heavily manured farms, especially in greenhouses, where the soil is not renewed; excellent crops are grown for many years in succession in greenhouses where liming is practised.

Among the other modern improvements of the Hittingers, the cold storage room for fruit is noticeable, where, in a temperature of 38 degrees, we were treated to some very good Baldwin apples of last fall's growth. The store room is in a cellar over which is an ice-house capable of storing 300 tons of ice. This is especially useful in handling pears, which are easily kept in excellent condition till Christmas.

The visitors were evidently much pleased with what they saw on this visit; some of the methods seen doubtless could be made useful at a longer distance from a great market; the cold storage, for instance, would be very useful in handling asparagus, strawberries, pears and apples on many farms 40 to 100 miles away; and there are many farms that might use irrigation with profit where the expense of providing it is not too large.

Among the well-known fruit growers present at this very enjoyable meeting were Mr. George Cruickshanks, the president of the Association, and its secretary, Prof. S. T. Maynard of the Agricultural College, Secretary Sessions of the Board of Agriculture, the Wheelers of Concord, Mr. C. S. Pratt of Reading, Mr. S. D. Warren of Weston, Mr. O. B. Hadwen of Worcester, Mr. Samuel Hartwell of Lincoln, Mr. Hunt of Concord, Mr. E. W. Wood of West Newton, Messrs. Draper, Ellsworth and Ross of Worcester, Messrs. Stetson and Pratt of Middleboro, Mr. J. J. H. Gregory of Marblehead, Mr. Ben. M. Smith of Beverly, John White of Fitchburg, and many others.

Previous to the departure of the visitors for their homes, a motion was made by Mr. Abel Stevens of Wellesley that a vote of thanks should be given to Messrs. Varnum Frost, W. W. Rawson and the Hittinger Bros. for their courteous reception and hospitality. President Cruickshanks seconded the motion, saying that the party had gained much pleasure and profit, and the vote was unanimously passed.

"Breezy Meadows" Experiences.

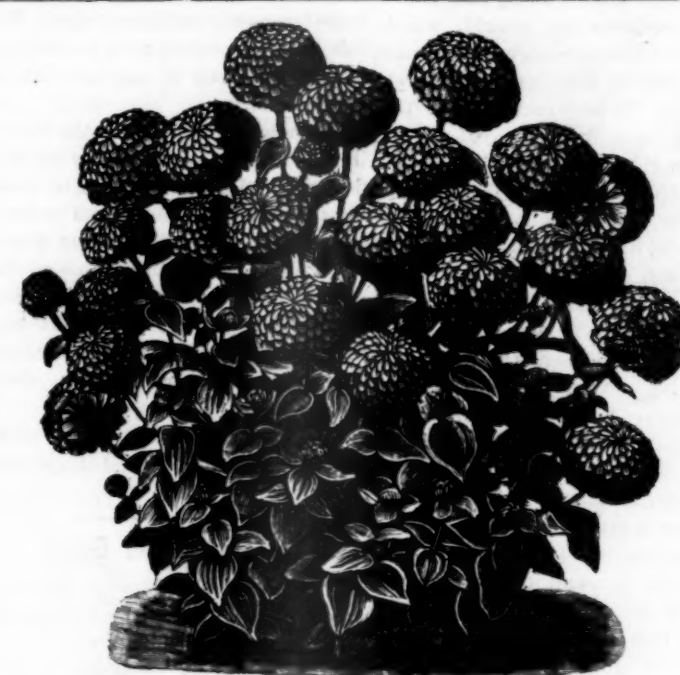
DAIRYING AT KATE SANBORN'S METCALF FARM.

I omitted one important fact in my appreciation of Miss Cutler's success and that in justice must begin a second letter. Her trees are twice as large and half the price of any that I have sent for, from far and famous nurseries, and last spring I replaced a \$2.50 Purple Beech, which never leaved out, with a much better tree of the same kind for 75 cents, from her grounds, and it is flourishing. I know I must not make my picture of farming too gloomy with the shadows of depressing experiences, else Mr. Darling will set me one side as a complaining pessimist, while really I am a most optimistic, hopeful creature and I wouldn't live away from my farm if offered a palace on Fifth avenue, New York, and a million to keep it going in proper style. No, indeed. But my theme is "Drawbacks in making a Farm Pay." First, there is my sex. I am only a woman, and men don't like to "hire out to a woman," or "be bossed by one!" and the gentlest suggestions are regarded as domineering commands, because it's a woman who makes them. It is difficult to find out what is going on, especially in the way of breakage or accident or disease. It is a fixed principle not to tell "her!" and if I find a sow's leg broken, or a pure Plymouth Rock cockerel afflicted with malignant diphtheria and canker, dying in a corner, no one can know how anything happened, as that would be "tattling." And this situation seems utterly hopeless, so I will let it go, as a necessary evil.

When any one buys a farm, the first purchase must be cows. "You must have cows to keep up the land." I believe that almost all farmers allow today that selling milk will never put a "surplus" in the bank. I used to wonder why farmers and their families never went anywhere to enjoy a long outing in summer time, and only half understood when they told me "they couldn't leave the cows;" but since I have kept eleven cows and sold or given away splendid rich Jersey milk to city dealers, I am wiser and sadder. I have stopped that discouraging pretence of doing something, but not before I understood all about the disgustingly dirty cans hurled back at me daily, in return for the shining, clean, neat ones sent away. Why is it allowed to city buyers to cook in these cans (cooking with rotten eggs is the prevailing style), and why must the farmer's wife be called upon to endure this imposition, and why will the farmer and his wife take such treatment in silence?

Would men and women in any other business allow themselves to be sat upon and not even squeal? A man clothed with authority whose name was as common as his manners, used to drive into my yard, never thinking of inquiring for me, march into the barn and so discourse about neglect and what must be done as to cause some lurid retorts from my irascible foreman; I used to fear the hay would get on fire from their heated discussion and was just about to order a Harkness extinguisher to put him out and the impending conflagration, when his visits ceased. At proper intervals a can would be returned as sour with a printed card saying that the company would drop us if not more careful. I have twice sent back the same milk and had it accepted!

Reading the best authorities, I followed their advice and bought thoroughbred stock. When the calves came, perfect beauties, with large, expressive eyes and fawn-like heads, I hoped to sell them and "make something." Another delusion. No one cares for blood or pedigree, or can afford to pay decent prices. A cow's a cow: no, an animate machine, whose teats, when manipulated, will let down a large quantity of white, watery milk to fill the cans. A calf is just a calf; no, a necessary nuisance for producing the thin, freely flowing lactical fluid. Few raise any calves; cheaper to send them to the butcher the third day and buy cows cheap. But I have learned that several of my calves, sent reluctantly to be slaughtered, have been kept a few weeks by the "cow man" and sold at a greatly increased price as one



PARQUHAR'S PRIZE DOUBLE ZINNIA.

of "Kate's" best, to some appreciative farmer.

Then the manure question. That is the sheet anchor, the keystone, the all in all, to the average plodder. "A big manure pile is the poor man's savings bank." Yes; but in the unscientific way it is often kept, how much interest is secured? No thought to save the most important part, and really a lot of soaked straw, smelling strongly of ammonia, is about all; perhaps some loads of saw-dust added, which hardly is a natural or needed food for the exhausted soil. This sort of manure or even the best, the kind in which the much-valued and expensive mushrooms are raised is a magnificent breeding place for all sorts of weeds, maggots, worms and bugs, that keep us so busy with poisons and lime spreaders when the young vegetation starts. One gets to be an unhaloed martyr to cows without realizing their degradation. A witty man said to me last summer, "The cow is the farmer's Fetish, and he is literally tied to its tail!" In illustration of this, I will repeat what a desperate farmer's wife said to me lately: "Why, Ben is getting to be nothing but a Manure Man; haul it out in spring and grumble because there isn't more, and work it into the land and shove it around in barn cellar and feed to get more; smell of it all the time, and at the end, after paying the man, we actually lose \$2.00 per month on the cows."

Toil without profit becomes not only a habit but an automatic religion. When I know of a man beginning cow work, long before daybreak on arctic mornings, and the evenings find him with a lantern still fixing the cows for their comfortable repose, and one of his wife's hundred daily duties is the cleansing of a dozen or more sour and encrusted cans, and the dairy cares are enough for one woman. When the milk, which is the cause of all this, sells to the contractor at the outrageously low price submitted to with supine lethargy and the grain bills exceeds the milk check, after the "surplus" is subtracted and the net results at the end of the year is a heap of compost and perhaps a mortgage; then it is time to wake up.

I believe in fertilizers and hope to prove that they are more efficient than the old-fashioned way of nourishing the land. I give the skim milk to calves and pigs and hens, and have lots of it on the table, and am better off than when a humble servant of the milk dealer.

"Proper pay and clean cans!" is my war cry.

There are those who do make money on cows; the lucky few who have made a name for themselves; it's just like the struggles of unknown authors and the fancy prices offered eagerly to those who have attained fame. I read so much about the folly of raising calves from "scrubs" and the duty of every farmer to get a noble sire to head the herd, that I sent to Ex-Governor Good, ell's farm at Antrim, N. H., and purchased a superb young Holstein-Friesian bull, Sultan Paul de Kol, a perfect specimen. I was tremendously proud of him, and spent all the time I could spare from my pigs in caring for him. He is now just three years old,

and so magnificent that Lansil, the renowned cattle artist, asked permission to paint him. But my last summer's trials with him caused me to board him out. He is good-natured, but hates to be eternally imprisoned on hot days, with the persistent flies goading him to madness. I screened all windows and doors, but he was still tormented, so I used to go out every morning and place tangle foot fly-paper on his broad back, catching nearly five hundred of his blood-letting tormentors. Then I would take the hose and flood everything down, including the operator, lastly giving Paul himself a drenching which he appreciated.

Next Whitney's carbonate of lime would be sifted about, and P. de K. anointed by the wholesale with "Shoo Fly." Lastly, I put black leather curtains at the windows, filled the feeding box with apples, and his Imperial Highness, the agony allayed and comfortably cooled off, would lie down to peaceful slumber, believing that night and rest had come.

Not willing to devote so much precious time to this rather arduous form of altruism, I sent him to a friend to keep and was grateful to get rid of him. I could not sell him at any price, although he was a superb specimen, just as good as are advertised in the Country Gentleman and Rural New Yorker at fancy prices, for, as a philosophic man remarked, "A bull is a thing that every body doesn't exactly want!" And now he has gone to Brighton for beef, I getting less for him than one-half of what I paid for him at three months.

So ends that lesson. I shall never bull the market again.

Women who consult me as to starting a dairy farm on a small capital are disappointed at my discouraging truthfulness.

Now I notice that the farmers were not "sharp" enough to have the contracts of last winter in written, legal form! How could a sensible body of men fail to do that? Would men in any other line of business have been as simple as that? Farmers must wake up, and brace up and have their wits about them, or they will be considered easy prey and treated accordingly.

KATE SANBORN, Farmer, Henwoman, and Raiser of Pigs.

A Prize Zinnia.

This week's illustration shows Farquhar's Prize Double Zinnia, one of the specialties of R. & J. Farquhar, South Market street. The flowers are fine in coloring, large, globular in shape and beautifully imbricated. The plant grows to the height of two feet.

Stock and Dairy Notes.

Check an attack of diarrhoea immediately. There is nothing else so wasting on the ewes as this disease, and it is apt to affect the lambs through them.

It is stated on the authority of Thomas Dixon and Professor Lomas, that hay or straw is a remedy for bloat—nature's remedy; and that cattlemen clover, sorghum, or the green succulent feed, as soon as threatened with bloat instinctively turn to the remedy, if accessible. They recommend that a stack or pen of hay or straw be placed in the field where the animals can go to it at will, and that then there will be no fatality from bloat. —Texas Farm and Ranch.

Wheat straw is the best bedding for pigs. Rye straw often has a black dust on it that gives the skin, especially of white hogs, a dirty appearance. Oat straw usually has more or less rust, says an exchange. It may seem to some that a clean, pink-white skin is not very important in a pig, but it is an indication of health. A pig will always keep on growing so long as his skin is clean and hair smooth. When the hair begins to curl and grow long, and the skin looks dingy and rusty, look out for a setback.

There is too much dependence on the pasture. No matter how many cows may compose the herd, all go on the pasture; yet there is a limit to the capacity of the pasture to supply grass. When the flow of milk lessens the fault is attributed to the pasture, when the real cause is too many cows. The proper plan to pursue is to use the pasture as an adjunct to feeding. The place to supply the cows is at the barn, and as the grass increases or diminishes on the pasture the food at the barn should be regulated accordingly.

The Wisconsin Experiment Station is authority for the following:

1. That it seems clear that the quantity of milk given by a cow is quite easily influenced by the amount and kinds of food used in the ration.
2. That although there are a few notable exceptions, the weight of the evidence seems to warrant the statement that the individuality of the cow is the main factor in determining the composition of the milk, while the food has very little, or, at least, a very uncertain, effect upon it.
3. That the effect of the food on the churnability of the cream is unimportant.
4. That certain foods impart to the milk and its products peculiar flavors, although it is uncertain how far skill in feeding may avoid these flavors.
5. That the hardness and color of the butter are varied by certain changes in the food.

THIRTY pounds of dry bran and midlings in equal parts mixed with one pound of Paris green proves acceptable to onion cut worms, deadly in effect, and easy to apply. The mixture can be distributed by means of an onion seed drill, and thus deposited evenly and continuously about the margins of the fields before the advancing destroyers; it forms a line of defence across which the worms will seldom pass without feasting to their death. If the worms become scattered over the fields the dry bait can be applied quickly and uniformly along side the rows by use of the drill.

This treatment is fully as efficient as hand picking, is less expensive, and is, for onions, at least, a very satisfactory defence against cutworms. It can also be used successfully and with ease to protect cabbages, tomatoes, egg plants, sweet potatoes, strawberries and similar garden plants, by surrounding each, at time of transplanting, with a little of the poisoned mixture, says a bulletin of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station.

If the onion grower will have ready for the cutworms when they first appear upon the grass about his fields a meal of the tempting but deadly, poisoned dry bait, and will offer this food to them whenever and wherever they first appear among the onions, his loss from their ravages will be but small.

The training of a tree the first season from planting determines its future shape as well as life.

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BOSTON, JUNE 26, 1897.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

The hay crop will wait for no man. Promptness tells.

FRESH air in the dairy is one of the necessities for good butter.

ECONOMY strength as well as time and money. Overwork never pays.

EXTRA help is needed in the kitchen these busy days as well as in the field.

It is money lost to feed a hog over a year old. No hog should be kept through two winters.

It is an excellent plan to grow two crops on one piece of land, but not if one crop is weeds.

Big brain work and a small acreage will produce more than little brain work and a large acreage.

VIGOROUS thinning must be resorted to if the finest quality and large size are desired in small fruits.

LET no land go to waste on your farm. Note Mr. Hittiger's plan of raising three crops on one piece of land.

AN intelligent, reliable young man of good family wants to learn farming. Who will give him a chance?

WORK should be made to tell in every particular. Many a man is busy all the time who accomplishes but little.

GIVE your horses good care these busy days. They will serve you all the better if not neglected in the rush of work.

ALL things have their use. Weeds, though seemingly a nuisance, are simply a cry of the soil for care and attention.

SKIMMED milk has been utilized as a fertilizer, and it is reported to produce a good crop of grass which was of the best quality.

THESE sunny days make favorable weather for haying, but have the forethought to provide hay caps and covers for the possible rain.

MAKE a specialty of something on your farm and perfect yourself in that branch. Know all there is to know about one subject and as much as possible about everything else.

FEEDING the stock heavily in the summer time not only wastes the food, but grain is liable to overheat the animal in very warm weather and renders it more susceptible to disease.

FEED the young animals for rapid growth and quick sales, thus insuring early returns for the labor and outlay. It does not pay to board animals a long time, waiting for them to grow.

LONG life and prosperity to "Aggie." All honor to its president and the strong and efficient corps of professors. It is a record which shows the college to be worthy of bearing the name of this grand old Commonwealth.

THE discovery has been made by the gypsy moth committee, that while local authorities are compelled, by the recent act, to suppress the new pest, the brown-tail moth, the State Board of Agriculture must investigate and find out the haunts of the pest. The question now is, where the money for the investigation is coming from, there being no appropriation in the act.

WATCH the boys and girls, and if they show a special bent in any direction, give them a chance to develop in that way, even if it does not happen to be your way. A boy or girl is safer with a special purpose or interest in life and will accomplish more in the world as well. After all, the most valuable crop the farm will raise is the boys and girls who find their home there.

ARE you keeping summer boarders? They will appreciate plenty of cream, milk and sweet butter, and all kinds of vegetables, fresh from the garden. It is poor economy to be sparing of them. Give them good, wholesome country fare of the best quality and they may overlook even the mosquitoes, if you are so unfortunate as to have them, and engage to come again next season.

THE recent successful fight for the anti-butterine law made by the dairymen of Illinois, has stimulated the leaders in the dairying industry to make a general fight all along the line in an effort to stamp out entirely all butter substitutes. The dairying interests of all the large Western states are combining with this end in view and will number more than 500,000 organized to fight against butterine in the State Legislatures. Among the leaders are Ex-Governor Hoard and Charles Y. Knight, president and secretary of the National Dairy Union.

\$100 Reward, \$100.
The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials.
Address, E. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists. 75c.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

An event which has been an object of interest to the whole world the past week was the celebration of the close of the sixtieth year of Queen Victoria's reign over the British Empire. The reign of Queen Victoria has proved to be thus far the longest period which any king or queen has ruled over England, two only approaching it in length, that of George the Third, who reigned nine months less than sixty years, and Henry the Third, who reigned fifty-six years.

Since Queen Victoria came to the throne 275,000 square miles—a territory bigger than Australia—have been added to the British Empire. In India 80,000 square miles—a space as vast as Great Britain; in the rest of Asia, 200,000 square miles—a region as large as Germany; in South Africa and in West and East Africa, 1,000,000 square miles—or about half the extent of European Russia. Today her possessions in North America and in Australia cover one-ninth of the earth's dry land. The population of Canada has sprung from 1,000,000 to nearly 6,000,000; of Australia, from 175,000 to 4,500,000.

The Victorian reign which has come to be the most famous reign in history, paralleling only that of Elizabeth, has been not only the longest in English history, but the most eventful, both in relation to the government of the British empire and as viewed from the standpoint of the world's progress.

The Great Britain of 1897 is infinitely richer, happier, stronger and, most important of all, freer than the Great Britain of 1837. With all these great developments, the name of Queen Victoria is forever associated in history, even if only because they happened in her time. The dignity, common sense and single-hearted devotion to the interests of her people which she has shown throughout all her reign has endeared her to all her subjects, and testimonials of loyalty from the various provinces all over the world have poured in upon her the past week. Ireland alone has refrained, for, while they have a warm personal feeling for the Queen herself, they look upon this event as political in character, and cannot consistently join in jubilation over prosperity in which they have not shared, for the same period has brought to them only disaster and poverty.

The jubilee celebration began with religious services on Sunday and Tuesday was the great day of the parade, three quarters of a mile in length, in which the Queen herself rode six miles. Perhaps the most impressive scenes of a day that shall go down into history as the most impressive in a decade, was the presentation of the foreign envoys to her majesty, when the rulers of the world, from civilized to semi-barbarous, presented their congratulations at the feet of the English throne. And among all the messages of felicitation and good will, none was received with better grace, nor moved her majesty so much as the personal letter from William McKinley, President of the United States. Banquets, garden parties and receptions filled the remaining days of the week and Saturday closed the celebration with a naval review by the Prince of Wales, including a fleet of English battleships, cruisers, and torpedo boat destroyers, as well as representatives from foreign navies, forming a line some twenty-five miles in length. One of the features of the celebration has been the raising of a sum sufficient to pay the debt in all the hospitals in London as a memorial of the event.

The State Agricultural College at Amherst, Mass., celebrated its thirtieth anniversary this week. The special celebration was on Tuesday, the day being begun with a salute of thirty guns. Reunions of the different classes were held in the morning and the anniversary exercises took place in the afternoon. The address was given by President Atherton, of the Penn. State College, who reviewed the achievements of the agricultural and mechanical colleges that were established under the land grant act of 1862, of which the Massachusetts College is one. Reminiscences of the early days of the college were given by Professor Stockbridge, who was president for the two years previous to the election of President Goodell. In the evening a reception was held by President Goodell and the trustees, followed by a social reunion in the drill hall. During the full thirty years of the life of the college, President Goodell has been connected with it, and he has been at the head since 1886. The head of the department of chemistry, Professor Charles A. Goessmann, has been there only six months' shorter time. Professor Maynard, the head of the department of horticulture, graduated with the second class in 1872, and has been with the college over twenty years.

One of the absorbing topics of the week has been the question of the annexation of Hawaii, which was brought into prominence by the signing of the Hawaiian treaty and its submission to the senate for ratification. These eight little islands, some 7,000 square miles in area, less than that of Massachusetts, have always been an object of interest to this country, not on account of their size, but because of the strategic value of their position in the Pacific Ocean. The treaty provides, among other things, that the islands are absolutely and forever given into the possession of the United States and become a part of the territory of this country; the government shall be territorial in form; further immigration of Chinese laborers is prohibited, also immigration of the Chinese from Hawaii to this country; the United States is to assume the public debt of Hawaii, the amount not to exceed four millions.

A WEEB is the sneak thief of the garden.

Read and Run.

—The storm sufferers in Florida ask for relief.
—Pennsylvania's State treasury deficit is over \$3,500,000.
—Five great cannons have been sent to Mobile and Pensacola.
—A message from the lost Narcotic has been found in a bottle.
—A new railroad is to be built to open up southeastern Alabama.
—Greyhound coursing is becoming a popular sport in Montana.
—Frost damaged the crops in northern New Hampshire, Sunday.
—The Salmon Falls Cotton Mills has resumed full time schedule.
—Lightships 63 and 69 have been floated at the Bath Iron Works.
—The North Atlantic squadron is to drill off this coast in August.
—A crusade has begun against Mormonism in Western Maryland.
—A successful kite airship ascension was made at Portland recently.
—The grain and m file on the Chicago railways is excellent.
—The National Farm School was dedicated at Doylestown, Pa., Sunday.
—Chicago is to have a school where only the Hebrew language will be used.
—Christian K. Ross, the father of Charles Ross, died in Philadelphia Monday.
—All Chicago (Ill.) schools are to be fitted with water filters to cost \$88,000.
—The Smithsonian Institution has secured a choice Asiatic coin collection.
—Rev. F. E. Clark of Boston has arrived in New York from a trip around the world.
—The National singing festival in Philadelphia for a \$5000 prize this week.
—James T. Kilbreth, Collector of the Port of New York, is very ill with pneumonia.
—President McKinley has decided to review the treaty of arbitration with Great Britain.
—Fire at East Weymouth destroyed the Union Congregational Church and other buildings.
—Twenty governors of as many different States will parade in Chicago on Logan day.
—Experiments with negro labor in Southern cotton mills have been declared successful.
—The Phillips Exeter Academy has just celebrated its one hundred and fourteenth anniversary.
—The survivors of the Kearsarge-Alabama fight held a reunion Saturday at Gloucester.
—The wreck of the steamer Pewabic has been found by means of the Noeppis diving bell.
—Western farmers are uniting to destroy the manufacture of butterine and oleomargarine.
—The Chicago & Northern Pacific Railroad will change its equipment to electric power July 1.
—It is expected that the wreck of the steamer Venetian will be entirely gone in about two months.
—Everett, Malden and Medford are to be included in the electric railway mail service for Boston.
—The Hawaiian treaty is defective in that it permits foreign vessels to acquire American registries.
—A Massachusetts movement hails John Cabot as America's discoverer and wants to erect statues to him.
—Ned McGowan, an old Government scout, has struck rich gold ore in the Sierra Ancha range, Arizona.
—George Blake, seventy-two years old, stole three hens in Stoneham, Mass., and was sentenced for two years.
—The plan to provide work for the worthy unemployed in cultivating vacant lots has been proved a success.
—Prince Eui Wha, second son of the King of Korea, has come to Washington, where he will study for several years.
—The evacuation of Philadelphia by the British was commemorated by the unveiling of a bronze tablet at Bethlehem, Pa.
—Millionaire W. B. Bradbury, of San Francisco, Cal., was obliged to spend 24 hours in prison for spitting in a street car.
—A scientific expedition which has been sent to Galapagos Islands expects to make valuable discoveries in plant and animal life.
—Massachusetts presented a bronze figure of Winged Victory to the battleship Massachusetts at Boston, on Bunker Hill day.
—An earnest effort is to be made in Cambridge to raise enough money to buy a pair of Elmwood, the poet Lowell's home.
—The "monster petition" on Cuba, said to contain hundreds of thousands of names, by actual count contained only 14,562 names.
—Mission Indians in Southern California are about to lose their homes on account of lack of means to raise a large appeal bond.
—A plan is proposed to have every person in New England contribute a dollar to a fund to purchase Mt. Washington and preserve its grandeur.
—The unveiling of the Logan statue on July 23 at Chicago will be a great event, President McKinley and many state governors agreeing to come.
—Three hundred white employees of cotton mills at Charleston, S. C., issue an address, having been forced out of their places by cheap negro labor.
—It is reported that Cubans in the United States who have helped the cause are to have representation in the Cuban assembly to be elected in September.

—Senor Andrade, brother of the Venezuelan Minister to the United States, has the support of President Crespo and will likely be elected to the Venezuelan Presidency.

—Henry Hall, who was arrested and tried at Taunton last week for stealing cattle in Brighton, has been re-arrested for a similar crime committed in Bridgewater. Hall is a drover, whose business it is to sell cattle through the state.

—Set of 12 Portfolios, 16 full-page photos, each 13 1/2 x 11, 192 pages in all, subject, "Beautiful Paris," edition cost \$100,000, given absolutely free, with beautiful case, by Dobbin's Soap Mfg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa., to their customers. Write for particulars.

—Investigation has confirmed the report that the fruit tree pest known as the San Jose scale has appeared in orchards at the western end of New York State, and the Canadians are preparing to take stringent measures to prevent it from crossing the border by the importation of nursery stock affected by it.

—Sunday morning a train from Lowell, when a little below Bedford Springs station, encountered a herd of seven cows. The engineer did all in his power to avert an accident, but being in a cut the cattle could not get away, and four of them were instantly killed. The engine and tender left the track and were piled up.

—Agitation has begun in Kansas City, looking to the passage by the next State Legislature of a strong anti-butterine bill. Kansas City, Kan., already produces a great amount of butterine, and on July 1 at least three firms having Chicago headquarters will bring forces from that city to manufacture the stuff in Kansas City, Mo.

—One of the most interesting spots in Maine this month is I. C. Libby's deer park in Waterville. A big flock of wild geese, another of tame geese, hundreds of ducks, thousands of hens and chickens, guinea fowls, peacocks, elk, deer and flocks of sheep unite to make a happy family, the like of which probably cannot be seen anywhere else in Maine.

—Transportation companies and individuals engaged in handling sheep are notified by Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural Department that the contagious disease known as sheep scab or scabies of sheep exists among sheep in the United States, and that it is a violation of the law to receive for transportation or transport any stock affected with that disease from one State or Territory to another, or to deliver any sheep for transportation, knowing them to be affected with the contagious disease mentioned.

State Grange Fair.

The premium list of the State Grange Fair to be held in connection with the Worcester Agricultural Society at Worcester, August 31, September 1, 2 and 3, has just been issued and is very neatly gotten up. It is larger than usual, on account of the increase in the number of premiums offered, and it is very evident that it has been wisely and carefully prepared. The premiums are divided into twenty-two classes, each department being well-represented, the names of the superintendents of the different classes being a guarantee of good management. Among others, premiums are offered for the best grange and farmers' club exhibits, and the Massachusetts State Grange offer special premiums to grange members who are residents of Massachusetts, one for the best collection of grasses grown in the State, another for a collection of woods, a third for the best plain domestic cheese, a fourth for the most practical designs for the three goddesses' tables, and the fifth for the benefit of the boys and girls, being for the heaviest squash or pumpkin raised and exhibited by any boy or girl under fifteen years of age, whose parents are grange members.

A premium of especial interest to the general farmer is that offered for the best general purpose horse; size, action, docility and rousing qualities being the characteristics to be taken into consideration in making the award. Many special premiums are offered, among them those by the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, Ross Bros. and the Massachusetts Jersey Cattle Breeders' Association. The Worcester County Horticultural Society has also added \$100 to the amount offered in premiums for vegetables.

The railroads are making special rates from all points in New England to this fair, reducing them especially from towns where there are large granges. In addition to this, the committee of arrangements are perfecting a plan whereby members of the grange can see the fair and all its exhibitions under especially favorable circumstances. All things considered, it appears as if the Worcester fair this year would be an honor to the State and a distinct advancement to agricultural interests. Entries of live stock must be made on or before August 14, and of all other articles August 18.

Address John B. Bowker, secretary, Worcester, Mass., for copies of the premium list or blanks for entries.

"AN ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is especially true of weeds. It is easier to kill them before they grow by keeping the surface soil well stirred, and more moisture and food is left for the growing plant.

"It would have been a large amount of money in my pocket if I had known ten years ago what I have learned to-day," said one of the men who attended the field meeting of the Mass. Fruit Growers' Association on the 17th. The small amount of money and time expended in taking advantage of these opportunities is well spent, giving large returns for the investment.

—Fall River manufacturers are more hopeful.

Mass. Horticultural Society.

The peony show last Saturday surpassed any previous exhibition in both the number and variety. The special prizes offered by Kelway & Son, Langport, Eng., were awarded; the first, for Paonia Albiflora, collection of eighteen named varieties, single or double, to Kenneth Finlayson, and the second to T. C. Thurlow.

The society's prizes were awarded as follows:
Herbaceous Peonies: Collection of named varieties, double, Kenneth Finlayson; second, T. C. Thurlow; third, George Hollis. Specimen bloom, Kenneth Finlayson, Blanche Neige; second, the same for Model of Perfection. Vase of blooms on long stems, arranged for effect in the society's large China vases, Kenneth Finlayson; second, M. H. Walsh.

Gratuities: C. H. Southern, display of peonies; Mrs. E. M. Gill, display of peonies; M. H. Walsh, display of roses and peonies; Mrs. E. M. Gill, display of roses; Mrs. A. A. Johnson, Kalnia latifolia; James Conley, display; T. C. Thurlow, display; Miss C. M. Endicott, display of Alpine plants.

George Hollis received a certificate of merit for seedling peony, "George Washington."

Awards for fruits: Gratuity: Joseph S. Fay, Marshall strawberries.

Awards for vegetables: Gratuity: I. E. Coburn, peas; Joseph S. Fay, collection.

A collection which attracted much attention was one of the Alpine plants in flower, gathered above the tree line on the White Mountains. The contrast between the plants developed by centuries of assiduous cultivation, such as the roses and peonies, and those wild descendants of plants which have existed under Arctic conditions since the glacial era without the slightest attention from man, was most interesting and instructive. Many of them were species which bloom, even in the bleak region, very early in the season, and the ordinary mountain-climber never sees them in flower. With them was the most delicate of mountain heaths, the exquisite Cassiope hypnoides, just coming into flower, and a dense cushion of Alpine azalea (Loiseleuria procumbens), covered with beautiful flowers. These diminutive plants are subject to conditions which would destroy the hardiest of our cultivated species at once, but on those exposed elevations, where the wind frequently reaches the velocity of more than a hundred miles an hour, and the temperature in winter sinks to fifty degrees below the freezing point, these lovers of the Arctic regions find a congenial home.

The annual exhibition of roses and strawberries on Tuesday and Wednesday was an especially fine one, owing to the favorable weather conditions which had preceded it. Among the strawberries, there were representatives of all the most familiar varieties grown about Boston, among them being the Marshall, Bubach, Brandywine, Enormous, Beverly, Clyde, Jesse, and Haverland, also several promising seedlings. The Marshall variety, one of the best, being of enormous size, some of them as large as small peaches, fine in flavor, and of a beautiful, deep, rich red. Varum Frost, the happy possessor of the first Lyman prize, his Marshall being unusually handsome, of great size, and with a luscious richness of appearance which was most tempting. S. H. Warren of Weston showed several fine-looking plants, one year old, of the Clyde variety, well filled with fruit. The prizes awarded for strawberries were as follows:

Special Prizes, Theodore Lyman Fund.
Strawberries: Four quarts of any variety, Varum Frost, Marshall; 3d, G. E. Horne, ditto; 3d, Joseph S. Fay, ditto; 4th, Warren Heustis & Son, ditto; 5th, George V. Fletcher, ditto.

Special Prizes, offered by the Society.
Two quarts of any variety best adapted for garden cultivation for home use, Joseph S. Fay, Marshall; 3d, Warren Heustis & Son, ditto; 4th, E. Coburn, Jesse; 5th, George V. Fletcher, Marshall.

Regular Prizes.
Strawberries.—For the largest and best collection, not less than twenty baskets of two quarts each, and not less than five varieties, George F. Wheeler; 2d, I. E. Coburn. Ten baskets, not less than three varieties, two quarts each, George F. Wheeler; 2d, I. E. Coburn. Five baskets of one variety, two quarts each, G. E. Horne. Two quarts of Belmont, George V. Fletcher; 2d, Varum Frost, Bubach, G. E. Horne; 3d, I. E. Coburn; 4th, George V. Fletcher. Champion, G. E. Horne, Charles Downing, Miss M. S. Walker; 2d, George F. Wheeler; 3d, Wm. Doran & Son. Greenest, George F. Wheeler; 2d, I. E. Coburn; 3d, J. C. Terry. Haverland, 2d, I. E. Coburn; 3d, John C. Haskell; 4th, George F. Wheeler. Hersey, George F. Wheeler; 2d, I. E. Coburn; 3d, J. C. Terry. Miners' Profit, G. E. Horne; 2d, Geo. F. Wheeler. Parker, E. E. Smith; 2d, Geo. F. Wheeler. Sharples, I. E. Coburn; 2d, Geo. F. Wheeler. Charles, G. E. Horne; 2d, Wm. Doran & Son. Timball, 2d, Geo. F. Wheeler. Enormous, 2d, S. H. Warren, Clyde; 3d, I. E. Coburn. Beverly, collection of not less than six varieties, one quart of each, I. E. Coburn; 2d, Geo. F. Wheeler. One quart of any new variety, not previously exhibited, S. H. Warren, Seedling No. 3; 2d, G. E. Horne, Seedling.

There was also a handsome showing of early vegetables, some of the awards being as below:
Beets.—Twelve summer turnips, rooted, H. R. Klancy. Onions.—Twelve specimens, W. N. Craig. Cucumbers. Pair of White Spine, George D. Moore. Any other variety, George D. Moore. Eureka. Cabbages.—Three of any variety, trimmed, George D. Moore. Early Spring, 2d the same for Wakefield. Lettuce.—Four heads of any variety, George D. Moore; 2d, Warren Heustis & Son. Peas.—Half-peck of any variety, E. C. Lewis, Notts Excelsior; 2d, Joseph S. Fay, American Wonder; 3d, Elliott Moore.

The rose show was excellent and varied, ranging from the small tea and moss roses to the Magna Charta and Mavourneen, and of all colors. A curious rose was the York and Lancaster which showed alternate streaks of red and white in its petals.

"Not every man is made a fool of," remarked the observer of men and things, "but every man has the raw material in him."—Detroit Journal.

Love is a hallucination which makes otherwise sane men believe that they can set up housekeeping on a gas stove and a canary bird. —Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.



HAY TEDDER
Made in 2 sizes

AMERICAN RAKES
BEST, STRONGEST, EASIEST TO HANDLE

Simple, Durable, Light Draft.
Unusually perfect machine for turning or tedding hay.

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Learn Where to Go and How to Go.

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Our new Summer Boat, illustrated with half-tone cuts, describing the delightful seaside resorts reached by our steamers, will be sent free by mail on receipt of request, giving full name and address.

FREDERICK A. JONES, G. P. A. - - Lincoln Wharf, Boston.

Country Real Estate.

The Heyward Stock Farm in Bridge-water has been sold to Mary Shiner of Waltham, on private terms, for a residence.

Carl A. Johannesson of Portsmouth, N. H., has sold his twenty-acre farm, near Milford Pink Granite quarries, to A. A. Anderson of Boston, on private terms.

J. J. Murphy of Lowell has purchased of R. J. McDonald a fifty-acre stock farm near South Framingham. Mr. Murphy buys for a home, and has already taken possession.

The stock dairy and maple sugar farm of W. G. Tabor, near the Shaker settlement at Enfield, N. H., with a large set of farm buildings, has been sold to G. Van Barcom of De Peyster, N. Y.

The vegetable, fruit and poultry farm of Joseph Harris, on Pond street, Norfolk, comprising ten and a half acres with a good set of buildings, has been sold to Theodore Webber of New York, who buys for a home.

The vegetable and fruit farm of H. E. Cushing, near the great lake in Middle-bury, comprising thirteen acres, with buildings, has been sold to W. C. R. Weeks of Patchogue, Long Island, who buys for a home.

\$100,000

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Mrs. Mattie A. Smith, of Baltimore, earned a Cycle in five and one-half days, and is now working for a gold watch. She says: "I got a subscriber at nearly every house."

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For Nahant—0.30 A.M., 1.00 A.M., 12.30 P.M., 3.30 P.M., 5.00 P.M., 8.15 P.M.

RETURN—From Nahant—0.30 A.M., 11.00 A.M., 12.30 P.M., 3.30 P.M., 5.00 P.M., 8.15 P.M.

From Bass Point—10.30 A.M., 12.00 P.M., 2.00 P.M., 3.45 P.M., 5.15 P.M., 8.30 P.M.

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Dinner and refreshments served on board. NO LIQUORS.

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On Children. Kill this summer. Lambert's Death to Lice ointment will fix them and brighten the broods. Trial size, 5c. Full size, 10c. Postpaid. D. J. LAMBERT, Box 312, APOKAO, R. I.

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THE HOUSEHOLD.

THE KITTENS' GAME OF TENNIS.

Two kittens played a game of tennis one day, and played by rule—the only right way; A crow, a jay, and a little blue bird, sat high on a fence near by to see.

For a net they borrowed a spider's web fine, From a sunflower it stretched to a wayside vine; Their balls were four ripe currants red; After this game a feast they would spread.

Little black kitty began to serve, And away went the red ball on a curve; "Ah! you're out," said white kitty cat, "Can't you play tennis better than that?"

And the bugs crawled out; they heard the about, And came to see what 'twas all about. The kittens, spy, jumped high, then low, As over the net their balls would go.

Down tumbled black kitty at "15-all," And white kitty scrambled to find the ball; And the birds and bugs all laughed to see What great tennis-players these kittens could be.

"One game! One set! Now a dance! A feast! Come away, we'll treat each bird and beast." But a little brown dog came bounding on, And at a moment the little white kittens were gone.

And the sunflower shook and laughed so hard That the net broke down in the tennis-yard; And the birds, three on the rail fence high, Ate up the tennis-balls—no more current pie.

And this was the end of the game and feast That the kittens planned for bird and beast. —Ella M. Powers.

HELPING THE BIRDS TO BUILD

BY EDWIN SANDYS.

Twenty-five years ago I was an eager collector of birds' eggs. A practical lesson effected a cure of the mischievous practice. At the time, of course, I did not realize that instead of being a useful fadist, I was merely a misguided fadist who did more harm in five years than I was likely to counterbalance by the good I might accomplish during my natural life.

One day, early in spring, when I was prowling through a low-lying maple thicket, I flushed a woodcock. The poor bird simulated lameness, uttering appealing, bleating noises, and endeavoring with all her feeble powers to induce me to pursue her. I knew too much for that, however, and immediately began spying about to find the young.

Poor wee fellows! Two of them downy, tottering little babies, strove in vain to hide upon the almost bare mould. After locating them, I crept behind some cover and watched to see the mother-bird return. Her anxiety soon drove her homeward. She came fluttering through the saplings, pitched beside her babies, examined them, gripped one between her legs and carefully bore it away to a safer nook.

So pretty an exhibition of mother-love should have prevented me from further meddling, but I regret to say that it did not. I secured the second fledgling, took it home and hid it in a box in our outhouse. Needless to say, in the morning the poor little woodcock was dead. Father caught me in the act of examining it, and then there I got a well-deserved lecture upon senses cruelly.

"My boy," he concluded, "you have not only broken the law of humanity, but you have broken the law of the land. You not only deserve a sound thrashing, but you are liable to a heavy fine for molesting that unfortunate bird. Now, I'll make a bargain with you. If you will stop meddling with birds' nests, forswear the mischievous collecting of eggs and send what you have to—

Museum, I will overlook the woodcock and will give you my volumes of Wilson's 'American Ornithology.'"

Wilson's beautiful work with colored plates was then something which few boys had ever seen, and we closed the bargain at once. In spite of much handling and reading, the three volumes are as perfect to-day as when they were handed over to me a quarter of a century ago. From them I learned to appreciate the birds, but for a long time it was difficult to abstain from taking eggs and also from paying too close attention to the birds' building operations. I felt the need of a safety-valve and at last it was found.

A fragment of old clothesline, with a much-frayed end, hung from an apple branch near my window. One morning a beautiful Baltimore Oriole found the prize. He tugged and worked at the rope until he got a strand free, and flew with his building material to the branch of a giant sycamore. Again and again he came to the rope, and he was so excited and so busy over his priceless find that he fairly fascinated me.

To locate the branch which was to support the nest was an easy matter. The little olive and yellow hen was there earnestly weaving the strands which were brought by her brilliantly garbed mate. While I watched her an idea came to me. Back I went to the house and soon a big tuft of the whitest cotton-batting was suspended beside the bit of rope. The joy of the oriole was good to see. Day after day his velvet and orange coat flashed about the prize, while a wonderful white bag approached completion under the broad sycamore leaves.

At last, when the nest was nearly finished, I hunted up a couple of trout-flies attached to a fragment of gut and silk, and, after fling off the bars, I placed them on the cotton. The oriole's beady eyes soon discovered the new treasure, and he was almost beside himself with joy. In his first attempt to carry it off he fell to the ground, but he was after it at once, and finally got the whole so doubled in his beak that he could carry it home. The bits of bright color evidently pleased his wife, for the next day a troutfly was plainly discernible upon the side of the white nest.

After the brood had left their swaying bag, I climbed the tree and cut the branch that bore the nest. There were the strands of rope, the cotton and the flies, the latter, by chance, or was it with an eye to the fitness of things?—fastened about the swell of the nest, exactly where they would show to the best advantage.

A pair of yellow warblers, too, found the source of the Baltimore's supplies and began a snow-white home in the small fork of a flowering shrub. This nest was very easily watched, and when the birds began to line it, a bunch of pure white horsehair was placed at their

disposal. The result was one of the prettiest nests imaginable, for every bit of it was as spotless as snow. The experiment of placing slate-colored, dyed batting in a convenient place, did not find favor with the builders. Perhaps they did not like the dye, or was it that the white material was better for use in a shrub which had whitish bark and almost white blossoms?

These experiments suggested others which were aimed directly at the robins and cat-birds, especially the latter. Old "Bob" used to sit close to my window and pipe his jolly cheer-up-cheer-up-cheer-up-cheer-up, as though he had not a care in the world. When he found a narrow strip, torn from an old shirt, upon the ground, how was he to know that the trifling black marks upon it had been mischievously put there and that to human eyes they said "All had eggs here"? As the uncompromising statement was printed upon both sides of the rag, it didn't matter which side "Bob" left out. As it happened, most of the rag swung free, and he who ran might read.

The cat-birds delighted in bits of brownish paper about six inches long by an inch in width. Such nonsense as "I steal your cherries," "I can't sing a bit," etc., would be printed upon both sides, and frequently the results were very comical. Visitors would be quietly guided to the nests and allowed to read the mottoes of the respective houses. A laugh was sure to follow, and then the remark, "The boys stuck that there, of course."

The boys, however, merely furnished the materials which the birds utilized to suit themselves, and, trifling as the amusement may have been, it helped the birds to build, and, best of all, it got the boys so interested in the fun that not an egg or a nest was ever molested. Other boys may find plenty of harmless amusement in trying the same simple experiments.

TEA FOR TWO.

'Twas a dainty little lady made of strawberries red, With a strawberry body and a strawberry head; She had a poppy-leaf shawl and a poppy-leaf skirt, And a bonnet of a rose-petal, pink and pert; With a daisy for a parasol, she went out to tea, With the little maid who dressed her, beneath the apple-tree.

But when the tea was over, she really looked so sweet That the little maiden felt she'd be very good to eat.

So she drew the pretty bonnet off and threw away the gown, And the tempting little lady, why, she swallowed her right down! —Martha Bevor Banks.

THE HOME CORNER.

By arrangement with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the *Bazar Glove-Fitting Pattern* at a very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with them. The coupon below must accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

FREE PATTERN.
By arrangement with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the *Bazar Glove-Fitting Pattern* at a very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with them. The coupon below must accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

MASS. FLOUGHMAN COUPON.
Cut this out, fill in your name, address, number and size of pattern desired, and mail it to: THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN, BOSTON, MASS.

Name.....
Address.....
No. of Pattern.....
Size.....
Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.

6045—Ladies' Fancy Basque.

Black moire velours and handsome passermenterie make this stylishly united, wonderful white bag approached completion under the broad sycamore leaves.

The fanciful fronts are simply arranged over smooth linings that close in the centre, the jacket fronts flaring apart, disclosing the vest portion of mouseline over satin that closes under the left front edge. The smooth yoke bolero is included in the right shoulder, arm's eye and under-arm seams and closes invisibly on the left. The back is rendered glove-fitting by the usual seams, the shaping below the waist line forming a stylish pointed effect. The sleeves, of latest design, are prettily pointed and flare deeply over the hands with bands of passermenterie and lace employed as decoration. The tops of sleeves present a puff of diminished size daintily caught through the centre with an outstanding ruffle composed of finely plaited mouseline. At the neck is a close-standing band of passermenterie with the indispensable and becoming soft finish of lace above. With this stylish basque is worn a toque from Virot composed entirely of violets delightfully mingled with ribbon shading from the palest lavender to a deep rich shade of violet. A handsome rhine stone buckle ornamenting the front. To make this basque for a lady in the medium size will require three yards of the forty-four inch wide material. The pattern, No. 6045, is cut in sizes for a 32,

34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure. With coupon, ten cents.

7041—Boys' Suit with Closure.

Tobacco-brown serge made this stylish little suit that comprises a blouse, jacket and knickerbockers. The dressy little blouse is made of fine white lawn trimmed with frills of the material. A box-plot is on the left-front edge, through which the closing is made with studs or buttons. It is shaped simply by shoulder and under-arm seams, the fullness at the lower edge being arranged in regular blouse style. A wide sailor collar completes the neck, and deep rolling cuffs finish the wrists. The jaunty jacket is adjusted by shoulder and under-arm seams. The back is seamless, while the fronts, flaring widely apart, are reversed in pointed lapels. The sleeves, of comfortable width, are gathered at the top and again at the wrists, which is quite a new feature from the regulation coat shape. The trousers, cut in knickerbocker style, are shaped by inside and outside leg seams and close at the side, inside bands at the top being provided with button-holes, to attach to buttons on the under-waist. Serviceable little suits can be made from tweed, serge, chevrot, grass- linen, duck and pique. The colors selected for small boys this season are numerous, and include brown, green, and blue in both light and dark shades. A decided preference, however, is given to red, which is the color of the day for wee folks as well as their elders. Braid and buttons are the accepted decorations, or the suit can be simply finished with machine stitching. To make this suit for a boy in the medium size will require one and one-half yards of fifty-four-inch wide material. To make the blouse will require two and one-quarter yards of thirty-six-inch goods. The pattern, No. 7041, is cut in sizes for boys of four, six, eight and ten years. With coupon, ten cents.

For traveling costumes, tweeds and chevrots, in gray and brown shades, are more popular than any other materials. They are made with plain skirts rather narrower than last year. The bolero is almost universally worn for these costumes and pretty silk blouses are worn under them. Many of our large houses are trimming these suits with a narrow braid of decidedly contrasting color. The seams and hems of the skirts, also the collars, revers and cuffs of the jackets are outlined with braid. Some of the boleros are cut up in the back, but most of them reach to the waist line all around, says the McDowell Fashion Magazine.

Blue and white serge are always the thing for yachting. The water does not spot or shrink them and they are warm without being too heavy. Many of these skirts are made without any lining and are finished around the bottom with a triple hem about six inches deep. The idea of making these hems triple is to keep the feet from showing between the bottom of the petticoat and the lower edge of the skirt.

Some outing dresses for older ladies are made with cape jackets instead of the bolero. The body part of these garments is made half tight fitting with slight ripple over the hips and in the back. The full cape sleeves are lined with silk, usually the same as the blouse waist that is worn under it. The garments are very comfortable for traveling because they give perfect freedom and ease in using the arms.

More care is taken in modeling and finishing evening costumes than heretofore. Brilliance makes a very cool dress for this purpose and is well liked because it does not catch the dust. Skirts are divided and not very wide. The bloomers are made scant around the hips and quite full below the knee. The jackets worn with these costumes are made tight fitting in the back with loose double-breasted front.

A pretty and dainty baby basket can be made by using an ordinary light or tan cent ship basket as a foundation. It should be covered and lined neatly with a cheap figured material. About two yards of pretty chamois, silkoline or dotted Swiss, or any other suitable material, would answer the purpose, says Harper's Bazar.

First line the bottom of the basket inside and out by applying the material flat and sewing it through the basket; next cut a piece of goods wide enough to go from the bottom of the basket inside to the bottom outside (allowing, of course, a little to turn in), and long enough to go around the basket; sew the ends of this together.

Now take another strip of goods for the pockets. If the material is very thin it may be doubled to make it stronger, and by stitching the edge the necessity for binding or hemming the opening of the pocket will be avoided. Box-plot this strip to make a suitable number of pockets, and stitch by machine to the goods lining around the basket. Stitch firmly also the sides of each pocket.

Now slip the goods on the basket, with the pockets on the outside. Silt the goods where necessary to slip over the handle of the basket, then sew up again. Finish the inside of the basket firm by turning up the goods and sewing through the basket; then finish the outside in the same manner, making the stitches as inconspicuous as possible.

If preferred, the pockets may be made separately and stitched on.

To make the basket look a little more fluffy and baby-like, a piece of lace, either gathered or straight, may be sewed on the rim and falling inside. The handle is to be covered with a flounce of the goods trimmed with lace and tied up in the centre. The effect of the whole is charming.

The pockets of the basket are to be used, of course, for all the accessories of baby's toilet, while the interior is used for holding little dresses and fannels.

The successful accomplishment of this baby basket suggested the idea of making a basket of the same kind, but covering with a strong linen or denim, to be used as a receptacle for a child's toys and games, so that in the evening there would be no more excuse for playthings left lying about. It proved a great success, and I should strongly advise mothers and aunts who value an orderly home to try the experiment.

Physicians constantly see patients who would be horror-stricken at the idea of being devoted to the whiskey or brandy bottle but who seem to think that there is no possible harm in resorting to wines of cocoa or kola with or without other ingredients. In many instances these wines contain such a large quantity of alcohol that in addition to the stimulating effect of their medicinal ingredients they produce an effect equivalent to that produced by a drink of whiskey. They should therefore be employed only under the direction of a physician, and should a physician order them the prescription calling for them is not to be renewed excepting under his advice, says the Chautauquan.

The same objections exist against the employment of those preparations of bromides and caffeine which are utilized under different combined names in the treatment of headache, and very much the same objection exists, too, against many of the so-called headache powders or tablets which are now placed upon the market for the use of the unwary. It is true that they do relieve headache in many cases, but they should be used with caution. You should remember that a headache is a symptom, not a disease, and that it is a symptom of many diseases, ranging all the way from serious affections as Bright's disease and brain tumor to the headache due to numerous and unimportant causes. The removal of the symptom "headache" in a person suffering from Bright's disease may give such temporary relief that the patient will ignore the condition of his kidneys and go to a physician only when his state is so serious that his headache can not be put aside by these means, and when it is perhaps too late for him to gain any benefit from treatment. In many instances of nervous headache, quiet rest, a sufficient amount of sleep, and a proper regulation of the diet are what the patient needs, and using headache powders is simply postponing the evil day, with compound interest to pay in the end.

Let us imagine a water-lily decoration for a small July luncheon. In these, if we choose, we may have the national colors in a much lower key. If the lilies cannot be gathered early in the morning of the day they are to be used, they should be placed in well-filled tubs and put out-of-doors the night before, so that the early sun will reach them. Select all the low dishes and bowls available—fill some entirely with the lilies; in others place only two or three flowers with their leaves. Russian bowls may be put on the floor in a sunny window, and the edge lined with delicate grasses and reeds, as a setting for the flowers, and the full beauty would be better appreciated than near at hand, says the Art Amateur.

Here let me make a suggestion, which may prove very useful in the arrangement of floral centre pieces. Have two or three mirrors of different sizes and shapes, framed simply in wood about

WISE WOMEN.
Those Who Heed the First Symptoms of Nervous Derangement.

Special from Mrs. Pinkham.

A dull, aching pain at the lower part of the back and a sensation of little rills of heat, or chills running down the spine, are symptoms of general womb derangement.

If these symptoms are not accompanied by leucorrhoea, they are precursors of that weakness.

It is worse than any other ailment, and than folly to neglect these symptoms. Any woman of common sense will take steps to cure herself.

She will realize that her generative system is in need of help, and that a good restorative medicine is a positive necessity. It must be a medicine with specific virtues. As a friend, a woman friend, let me advise the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

If your case has progressed so that a troublesome discharge is already established, do not delay, take the Vegetable Compound at once, so as to tone up your whole nervous system; you can get it at any reliable drug store. You ought also to use a local application, or else the corrosive discharge will set up an inflammation and hardening of the parts. Mrs. Pinkham's Sanative Wash is put up in packets at 25 cents each. To relieve this painful condition this Sanative Wash is worth its weight in gold.

THIS GROOMER W. SHEPARD, Waterbury, N. Y., says: "I am glad to state that I am cured from the worst form of female weakness. I was troubled very much with leucorrhoea, bearing-down pains and backache. Before using Mrs. Pinkham's Remedies it seemed that I had no strength at all. I was in pain all over. I began to feel better after taking the first dose of Vegetable Compound. I have used five bottles, and I feel like a new woman. I know if other suffering women would only try it, it would help them."

You might just as well

try to blow around a weather vane as to help some people by pointing out the right way. They won't see it. Even if you prove to them that it's the easiest way, and the safest, and cheapest, they won't walk in it.

But this isn't so with all. It's only a few, comparatively. We're not complaining.

There are millions of women who have seized on Pearline's way of washing—glad to save their labor, time, clothes, and money with it. Most women don't need much urging when they fully understand all the help that comes with Pearline.

Millions NOW USE Pearline

vinegar, a cup of flour may be added with the curry-powder and mustard.

Sunshine Strawberries.—Select and hull three pounds of perfect strawberries of large size. Cook three pounds of finely granulated sugar, and two cups of boiling water, until a light thread is formed. Do not stir the sugar after it melts and begins to boil. Put in the berries and cook fifteen or twenty minutes after they begin to boil. Pour the contents out to a large platter, and set it in the sun to stand two days, or until the syrup is very thick. Store in tumblers, jars or bottles, cover the tops with paraffine, and set aside in a cool, dry closet.

When cherries are used, stone them before weighing the fruit. In making the syrup use the juice from the cherries instead of water. If you have a larger quantity of juice than is needed for the preserve, can it for sherbets, sauces, etc.

Fruit Custard.—Is an old-fashioned, delicious dish, to be made when currants or other like fruits are at their height. Take a pint of fruit juice, and, when boiling hot, stir it into the yolks of four eggs well-beaten, with a cup of granulated sugar. Dissolve a pinch of baking-soda (positively not powder) in half a pint of fresh cream or milk; stir this in the eggs and bake, setting the baking dish in a pan of cold water, with a stand in the bottom. The custard should be smooth within and brown on top in half an hour, when it should be drawn to the mouth of the oven, the whites heaped on top as a meringue and browned. Serve cold. It is easy to imagine how refreshing such a pudding as this is on a warm day, if served icy cold.

Strawberries, although they take on an entirely different flavor when cooked, are among the most popular of preserved fruits. In northern cities from the middle of May to the end of June is the time of abundance, and by watching the market a quantity may be bought at very low price. If ordered

in time, one's own grocer will buy a crate very advantageously of different fruits as their season comes to its height. For strawberries allow one-half pound of sugar to one of fruit; for blackberries one-quarter pound, and for damsons three pounds of sugar to five of fruit; blue plums, three-quarter pound of sugar to one of plums; green-gages the same as the latter, but each plum must be picked two or three times if to be kept whole. Small fruits should be allowed to stand in the sugar one hour before cooking, to draw out the juice and to soften. After they are cooked if there is surplus juice it should be poured off, strained, brought to the boil and sufficient sugar added to make jelly. Sloppy preserves are never nice. If jelly is not wished, bottle the surplus juice while hot; it is delicious for sauces, says the American Queen.

With these general rules in mind put fruit and sugar in a large porcelain-lined kettle; allow one-quarter teaspoonful of powdered alum to each quart; this last hint is important as it helps to keep fruit from breaking. Mind that the fire is not too hot, for the fruit must come very gradually to the boiling point in order to be properly tender; when boiling throughout skim and bottle at once. Do not try to preserve without powdered alum; this is the secret of the perfect-looking, whole peaches and pears amateurs too often fail to produce. When large fruits are taken from the water into which they are thrown when peeled they should be boiled carefully until tender in a liquid containing one-quarter teaspoonful of alum to each quart of water.

They will never break or become mealy if treated in this way, and are then ready to be taken out carefully with a fat skimmer and just brought to the boiling point in the syrup. The syrup for peaches, pears, etc., is made in the proportion of one quart of clear water, the grated yellow rind of a lemon and one pound of granulated sugar to every four pounds of fruit; boil three minutes, skim, strain and it is ready for use. This is an excellent rule for the syrup for whole or quartered apples.

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cellent market 3 miles away. All farm tools, wagon, top buggy, 75 fowl, 2 cows, 1 heifer, 2 horses go with this place for \$2500. \$1200 cash, balance 5 p. c.

FOR Poultry, 16 acres (old survey) 25 miles from Union Station, Boston, and near to several large cities; house 8 rooms, stable with cellar, shop and bathroom, all good buildings. Wood for home use; good water, best of land. This is one of our excellent country places. Personally examined; price \$1500.

Many Other Desirable Farms for sale at any price, or location desired—Address—

MASS. PLOUGHMAN

—OR—

J. A. Willey,
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THE HORSE.

—Damaged corn is always dear feed for a horse.

—Prince Albert paced a mile in 2.09 3-4 at Mystic Park.

—Jack Curry states that in the last three years Joe Patchen has earned \$80,000.

—J. Malcolm Forbes has bought the three-week-old filly by Arion 2.07 3-4 out of Toto for \$1400.

—Cold water turned on steadily for ten or fifteen minutes will sometimes strengthen a weak leg or help a sprain.

—Mr. McMillan of Niles, O., a school-mate of president McKinley, has presented him with a fine pair of coach-horses.

—Our horse correspondent recently overheard George W. Leavitt remark that, after viewing fifteen or twenty of his get, Larabee 2.12 1-2 is the greatest sire of beauty he knows of.

—Clean out the feet of every horse when the day's work is done; brush the necks and breasts thoroughly, and if they are inclined to be at all tender or sore, bathe with some cooling lotion.

—Bathe the shoulders with strong salt water each night after removing the harness, if you would avoid having your horses sore under the collar. If you began two weeks before spring plowing, all the better.

BEST HAY FOR HORSES.

It depends very much on the age of the horse, whether he is still growing, or has reached maturity, and what he is used for, to determine what kind of hay is best for him. When horses are young and still growing, and working on the farm, clover hay of first quality is best for them. But whether young or old, we prefer to feed our horses clover hay, regardless of the kind of work they are doing. Clover hay is the only kind we have made for years. Our teams do as hard work on the farm, and on the road, as the teams of any other farmers we know. The usual short drives on the highway that are a part of farm life are made by horses that are fed on clover hay. If our teams were doing regular driving on the road we would still use clover hay, and believe we could do it successfully. With most men that use teams for heavy draft or regular driving Timothy is preferred. This is partly on account of prejudice existing against clover. Not as much care is exercised in balancing the rations of horses as there should be. On the farms in particular where they have corn and Timothy hay over winter, the young horses are almost sure to get poor before spring. Now we are feeding our horses ear corn and clover hay. The hay is not of best quality because it has rag-weed in it, still, we feed the corn first, and the hay last. If we gave both at the same time, as is the custom where Timothy hay is fed, the corn would be neglected till the clover hay was consumed, or the horses were full, says John M. Jamison in the Prairie Farmer.

We feed the corn first, and when it is eaten, the clover hay. Horses do not neglect corn to eat Timothy hay, but eat the corn first. This was our experience when we fed Timothy hay. Why not give the horse his choice in this matter, particularly as it is to the farmer's advantage to do it? Clover hay, it is claimed, for horses driving, or at hard work on the roads or streets, loosens the bowels too much, and has a tendency to scour the horses. This is no doubt true, but doubtless to a great extent because improperly fed. Horses are so exceedingly fond of a good quality of clover that they will overfeed if allowed unlimited quantities. They will also eat more Timothy than they should, if allowed, but will not overfeed on it to such a dangerous extent. Both should be fed in limited quantities, and especially is this true of clover. Timothy can be fed with less care, and this is doubtless one reason it is in greater favor with teamsters. Timothy and clover are the leaders from which the best hay for horses is made, and both have proper conditions and times for use to best advantage. Each is best in its place. Hungarian and millet make good hay, but come in mainly as catch crops when the others fail.

A wise man is on the lookout for a good thing. German Peat Moss, sold by C. B. Barrett, 45 North Market street, for horse bedding is one of the good things of this world.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY and Speaker Thomas B. Reed have been invited to attend the Grange State fair in Worcester next fall. Acceptances have been received from Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson and the master of the national grange, J. H. Brigham.

THE GRANGE.

Old Colony Pomona Grange.
Old Colony Pomona met with Eastern Grange June 18 at North Easton. There was a closed session in the morning. Dinner was served in the banquet hall at 12 m. to about one hundred members. The afternoon session was open to the public and the following program was given:

Song—by the Grange; Reading—Lecturer of Oak Hill Grange, Attleboro; Piano Solo—Miss Helen Jones, North Easton; Recitation—Master Newcomb of Bridgewater Grange; Reading—Miss Flossie King, North Easton; Piano Solo—Miss Helen Jones; Address—Subject, "Town and City Government," Judge S. E. Chamberlain, Brockton; Song—by the Grange.

The annual picnic will be held sometime in August at Dighton Rock Park. The next annual meeting will be July 17 with Westport Grange.

Weather and Crops.

FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 21.

The weather has continued cool in the North, but there has been less rain and some sunshine, and the crop outlook is improving. On low lands crops look poor, but on higher, lighter soil grass and grain are heavy, and field crops except corn are doing fairly well. In southern districts normal temperatures prevailed. There has been considerable sunshine and little rainfall, and all crops are improving fast. Having begun and a large crop generally is indicated.

MAINE.
In southeastern Maine the week has been the most favorable of the season for farm work and field crops. Over the rest of the state showers have been frequent, and although the conditions are improving the ground is still too wet and cold, especially on low land. Hail did some damage in central counties on the 28th. There is some complaint of potato seed rotting in Aroostook County, and of sweet corn failing to come in Oxford County. Grass and early grain look well.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.
Most crops have been helped by favorable weather during the week, but corn is still making a poor showing. Potatoes on low land have rotted, but on uplands are growing fast. Grass is beyond damage from possible drought and is an excellent crop, except on low meadows where the soil is too wet. Some varieties of strawberries are rusting, but generally a fair crop is promised.

VERMONT.
The weather has been cool but generally pleasant and the ground is fast getting into workable condition. Grass is rather light on low meadows, but elsewhere an excellent crop is indicated; some has been cut. Corn grows very slowly and is of poor color, but most other crops are pushing along very well now. Cherries and plums promise a light crop.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Several days of warm, bright sunshine have benefited field crops very much and most of them are improving fast. The nights are still too cool for tomatoes, corn, etc., and these crops look rather uneven and poor in color. Strawberries are ripening and are very good on light land; on low land they are late. Grapes are blossoming very full. Hay has begun to some extent with a good crop in prospect. Cranberries are promising.

RHODE ISLAND.
The temperature has been near the normal and there has been considerable sunshine during the week, which favored crops. Potatoes are showing very good. Peas are ripening unevenly. Strawberries are being marketed. Hay has begun.

CONNECTICUT.
With higher temperature, more sunshine and less rain all crops have taken a new start during the week. Corn is still of poor color but is improving. Potatoes are very good. Much tobacco has been set. Grain of all kinds is standing more erect. Turnip and cabbage seed has been damaged by wet weather. Cabbage seed breaks down and turnip seed has rotted. Some hay has been cut; a large crop is indicated.

Cost of Hauling.

It has been estimated that 500,000,000 tons of farm produce are hauled to market annually in the United States and that the cost of marketing it is \$2 per ton, or just about \$1,000,000,000. This is not money paid out, but is the value of the time spent by farmers with their teams in marketing crops or what these men and teams would have earned if they had been hired for cash to do this amount of hauling. The secretary of the Farmers' National Congress and the United States Department of Agriculture agree in estimating that about sixty per cent of this vast amount, or \$600,000,000, would be saved each year if farmers were able to do this hauling over good roads.—Am. Gardening.

"Your husband seems to be a victim of the tobacco habit." "No, I'm the victim. He thoroughly enjoys it."—Chicago Record.

THE TIMES ARE OUT OF JOINT. REFLECT!!

THE MASSES want to be **HUMBLED!**
So they buy inferior and dangerous soaps to procure **WORTHLESS** presents, or else the dealer recommends cheap soaps on account of extra profit.

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If you want the **BEST** and **PUREST** soap made, **BUY** the famous **WELLS** and the superior **WHITE CREST** Soap.

THEY HAVE NO EQUAL and will not injure the finest fabric or skin.

Made by **CURTIS DAVIS & Co.** BOSTON, MASS.

The New England Fair.

Rigby Park, where the New England Fair will be held this year, is, as those who attended the last two fairs well know, the best equipped fair grounds in New England. Its cost was in the vicinity of \$115,000, it possesses the safest and fastest track in the world, a grand stand with a capacity of 6000, and there are ample accommodations for cattle, sheep and swine. The grand stock exhibits, which have always been an especial feature of the New England Fairs, were the past two years acknowledged universally to be the finest yet made in the country. It is expected that this year's exhibit will surpass all previous ones.

The fair will open August 17 and continue one week. The premium lists have just been issued and may be had on application to H. F. Farnham, manager, Portland, Me. A large amount has been set aside for premiums and the list is a very complete one.

Many special features are being arranged for, although at present the full program cannot be announced. The North Atlantic Squadron will be in Portland during the week of the fair, and there will be many other attractions which will make the fair well worth visiting.

Fruit and Vegetable Notes.

Blackberries and raspberries very frequently have enlargements of knots upon the stems and roots. This disease appears to be a specific one and seems to be increasing. The enlargements are known as root or crown galls and are attributed to minute organisms which attack the affected parts. Not only is the trouble communicable among these plants, but there is possible danger of its passing to orchard trees, including pears, peaches and apples. The practice of planting raspberries among young fruit trees may, therefore, prove unsafe, says the Ohio State. No plants or trees that have root gall should be planted. Such should be promptly burned, and the same remedy applied to those in the orchard or gardens that are discovered to be affected.

One of the most important things necessary for a good crop of fruit is the protection of the plants during the winter, and more especially during the spring months. Many materials are used for this purpose, but positively the best covering is horse manure. As soon as the ground becomes frozen you can drive on the beds and cover the plants well from view with horse manure, and let it remain on the plants in the spring until very late. Strawberries need both food and covering and I know of no better way of supplying these needs at one and the same time than to cover them with this manure. "Yes, horse manure will bring weeds, the greatest blessing we have. Plants choked by weeds always remind me of the crying babe in the cradle; both need care, attention and nursing—and these are the only means they have of asking for them."—T. J. Dwyer.

Secretary McKean of the Maine State Board of Agriculture made an official report Monday in regard to the Bridges family in Blue Hill, Me., which was said to have contracted tubercular pneumonia, from drinking milk from a cow reported to have tuberculosis, several deaths resulting. A thorough investigation of the case has been made by Dr. C. D. Smith of Portland who reports that the children died of croup pneumonia and not of tuberculosis. The two members of the family who are still ill are suffering from pneumonia and not of tuberculosis and no tuberculosis was present in the cow. Mr. McKean concludes from this that tuberculin is not reliable and that it is unsafe to depend solely upon it to diagnose tuberculosis.

He says: "It may, perhaps, be said that it was not properly applied, or that the temperatures were not correctly taken, but Dr. West is a regular veterinary of considerable experience, and is one of the executive officers of the Maine Veterinary Medical Association; and the average farmer may well ask, if he cannot properly apply it, who can?"

FREIGHT RATES on the great lakes have reached the lowest point ever known. The charge for transporting a bushel of wheat from Duluth to New York and loading it on a steamer at the latter port is now about six cents, or hardly one-half of the rate prevailing a few years ago. A chief cause of this decline is the deepening of the channels and use of ships of larger tonnage than was possible formerly. Vessels of 5000 tons are now becoming common, where previously a 2000-ton ship was rarely seen.

Sugar Beet Soil.

"The query that presents itself to most people when the matter of growing sugar beets is presented, is what kind of soil is best for them? This may be replied to in a general way by the statement that any moderately fertile soil, such as will grow wheat, corn, potatoes, cotton, etc., will be found suited to sugar beets, and even soils too salt or alkaline to grow these crops will produce good beets. Sugar beets have been found a good crop to plant upon soils somewhat alkaline, with a view of improving the soil, this crop having been found valuable for extracting and removing alkali in small quantities. Experiments have been made with growing upon extremely light, sandy soil and upon heavy adobe and clay soils; upon very sterile and fertile soils, with results leading to the conclusion that extremes in all these classes of soil should be avoided, while medium soils of all kinds give satisfactory yields. One of the essentials is that the soil shall have depth—that is, it must be of a friable nature to the depth of a foot or more. Another is that there shall be no "hard-pan" near the surface. A calcareous soil has been found to produce the greatest per cent of sugar. In too rich a soil the beets grow too large, and contain an insufficient amount of sugar. A dearth of water produces a small crop of woody structure. A heavy clay or adobe is not loose enough to be easily worked and requires too much care in irrigating and cultivating to give good returns. The reports of experiments show that in Wisconsin the richest beets were obtained from a soil intermediate between a clay loam and a sandy loam. In South Dakota a dark sandy loam and clay loam gave the most satisfactory crop. In Kansas the best results are from a loam. In Iowa a dark loam proved best. In Indiana most arable lands gave about equally good results, though a moderately sandy loam seemed better than others. From these results the ideal soil for the sugar beet may be called a moderately fertile, rather porous, deep sandy loam, with a porous subsoil.—Bulletin 23, Arizona Experiment Station.

Two Kinds of Gardens.

Most of us have met the two kinds of gardens which Alfred Austin, the English poet, differentiates as owner's gardens and gardener's gardens. According to the poet laureate, nearly all the grand and costly gardens are gardener's gardens. And then he alludes to the small cottage gardens, "little village or secluded patches, cultivated and made beautiful by the pathetic expedients of the poor," which seem to have a charm that the others can not rival. It is indeed the glory of our beloved art that it is open to the rich and poor alike; the former seek to make much of it, the latter find some of their sweetest joys and delights therein. It is one of the commonest of events for the poor to grow flowers so handsome, and so abundant, that a monarch might well envy their success. Flowers are the appropriate gift of love,—is it strange, therefore, that among in their culture seems to be largely in proportion as we love them?—Vick's Magazine.

BITS OF FUN.

Mistress: Did you ask for milk bread?
Domestic: Yes, mum. Mistress: What a miserable little loaf they gave you!
Domestic: Yes, mum; it's my opinion, mum, that that baker is usin' condensed milk.—N. Y. Dispatch.

The Judge: Didn't I tell you the last time that you were here that I wanted to see your face in this court no more? Weary Watkins: You did, yer Honor, and that is exactly what I told the cop.—Indianapolis Journal.

Selflove: There's no use talking to Stubborn he won't listen to reason. Crabtree: What's the trouble? Selflove: I've talked to him for five hours now, and he still believes he's right.—Philadelphia No. American.

A little girl we heard of the other day saw a picture of Miss Willard and Lady Somerset. She was interested in her mother's story of these two famous temperance women, and a few days later was expatiating upon their character, but could not remember their names. "Mamma," she exclaimed, "mamma, this is Miss Willard; but is the other Lady Turnover?"—Standard.

A poor woman who kept a small shop in a northern village, and who was troubled with a husband who could scarcely be considered a credit to the family, one day found herself a widow through the sudden demise of her spouse. Said a lady: "I am sure Mrs. G., you must miss your husband." "Well, mum, it do seem queer to go into the shop and find something in the till!"—Tit-Bits.

A lady in Maine, speaking of "Camp-meeting John" Allen, says that some years ago he stopped in the street to see her and her friends playing croquet on the lawn, and was asked by one of them what he thought of it. "Humph! Billiard's gone to grass!" he replied, and walked away, but not so quickly that the young lady did not see the merry twinkle in his eye.—Zion's Herald.

A well-known vicar gives a curious experience. It was his custom to point his sermons with either "Dearly beloved brethren" or "Now, my brothers," until one day a lady member of his congregation took exception to this, and asked him why he always preached to the gentlemen and never to the ladies. "My dear lady," said the vicar, "one embraces the other." "But not in the church!" was the reply of the astonished lady.—Tit Bits.

See our SPECIAL OFFER on the sixth page.

THE WORLD OVER.

—The bank of Santiago is to go out of existence.

—Cuba's monthly deficit is said to be \$7,000,000.

—Six thousand lives were lost by the earthquake in Assam.

—London streets are almost impassable owing to Jubilee throngs.

—The French cable company will have difficulty in landing in Canada.

—Sir John Gorst may succeed Aberdeen as governor general of Canada.

—Twenty persons were killed and eighty injured by a tornado near Paris.

—The Cuban war has destroyed four-fifths of our trade with the island.

—The Central American republic proposes to adopt a uniform currency.

—Premier Canovas is willing to pay \$40,000 to the widow of Ricardo Ruiz.

—The man who originated the "boy-cott" policy, Capt. Boycott, has just died.

—The Chinese assaults on the Formosan capital were repelled by Japanese soldiers.

—The town of Tehuantepec, Mex., is in ruins, every house being destroyed by the earthquake.

—The government of Switzerland is taking steps to acquire the railways of that country.

—A permanent exhibition of Mexican products is to be established at the City of Mexico.

—It is rumored that Queen Victoria will abdicate in favor of the Prince of Wales in a few weeks.

—The French Government has taken steps to stop the compulsory duelling system in the army.

—The Canadian minister denies that the British Government will reopen the Behring Sea question.

—James S. Sanford, treasurer of Simcoe County, Ont., is a defaulter to the extent of \$100,000, and has fled to Mexico.

—The interment of Barney Barnato, the South African "diamond king," took place Sunday, at the Jewish cemetery in Williston.

—The Nicaragua Canal Company has resolved to issue \$150,000,000 in bonds, giving its franchises and properties as security.

—The peace basis reached between Turkey and Greece gives Turkey six million pounds and rectification of Thessalian frontier.

—Anti-foreign riots have broken out in the province of Kiang-Si, China. The English mission at Wuehen has been destroyed, and the refugees have arrived at Kin-Kiang. The Catholic mission was saved by the intervention of troops.

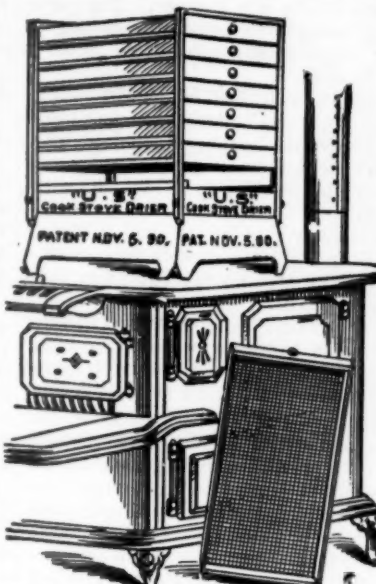
—At the French cabinet meeting last week Saturday, the minister for foreign affairs, M. Hanotaux, announced the resumption of diplomatic relations with Venezuela, and the apology of that republic for the incident which led to the rupture.

How fast the literature of locality is growing in America! It is only twenty years or so since the story of New England life was almost the only notable example of its species. As told by Hawthorne, it is still the best example, and a long list of good writers, with Miss Mary Wilkins' name included in it, has made it the most familiar. But now we have Craddock stories of Tennessee, Joel Chandler Harris stories of Georgia, Cable stories of New Orleans, Octave Thanet stories of Iowa and the middle West, William A. White stories of Kansas, and others, equally notable, of other localities, not to mention Bret Harte's familiar tales of California, and Mr. Howells' occasional excursions to the westward of the New England line. The more important recent American biographies are of great assistance, too, in teaching how all sorts of Americans live and feel.—Harper's Weekly.



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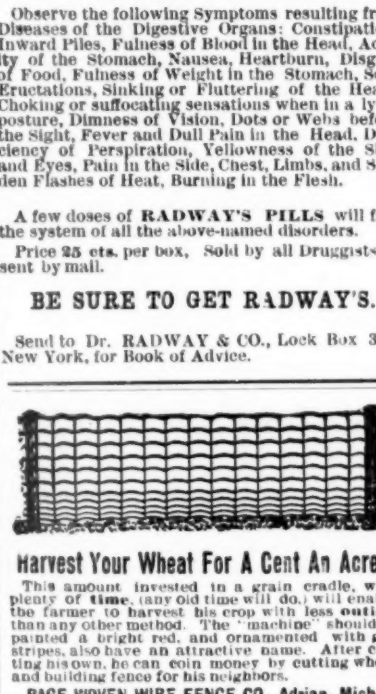
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All Disorders of the Liver.

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MEDICINES for DOGS and BIRDS.
A MAGIC CURE WHICH BEATS THE WORLD
Also Seeds of All Kinds.

A great improvement can be made in most orchards by regrafting those that are a found to be of undesirable varieties. It can be done in early spring with greater certainty that the grafts will live than if cut and set later. Grafts of the cherry and plum must especially be cut as early as possible. If kept in a cool, moist place they can be set even after the trees are in leaf.—Exchange.



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